

Serial No. 10/077,359

REMARKS

The Office Action mailed 10 April 2003 has been received and considered.

OBJECTION TO THE DRAWINGS:

Responsive to the objection of the Examiner, applicant has amended the specification to rectify the alleged misnumbering of those elements labeled by the reference numbers "77" and "86". In view of the rectifications to the specification, applicant respectfully submits that no amendments to the drawings are presently needed to rectify the alleged misnumberings. To clarify the nature of Figures 3 and 5, applicant submits herewith a corrected replacement of Fig. 8. The submitted replacement sheet corrects the section lines from which the referenced views were taken.

OBJECTION TO THE SPECIFICATION:

Applicant has addressed the concerns of the Examiner by amending the description found in the Summary of the Invention to provide adequate antecedent basis for the term "first interconnection member." In view of this amendment, applicant requests that the instant objection be withdrawn.

DOUBLE PATENTING OBJECTION:

Applicant has cancelled Claim 21 thereby rendering the instant objection moot.

CLAIM REJECTION UNDER 35 USC 112:

Applicant has amended claims 10 and 11 to provide adequate antecedent basis for the

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term "second interconnection member." Further, Claim 11 has been amended to clarify the relative positionings of the first and second interconnection members. Claims 14-16 have been amended to remedy the perceived antecedent basis noted by the Examiner. In view of the amendments to the aforesaid claims, applicant respectfully requests a withdrawal of the instant rejections.

CLAIM REJECTIONS UNDER 35 USC 102:

Claims 1, 4, 5-8, 11, 12, 17, 18 and 20 stand rejected under 35 USC 102 over Matsubara. In paragraph 14 of her Action, the Examiner indicated that claims 9 and 13 were objected to as being dependent on a rejected base claim, but would be allowable provided applicant rewrote the aforesaid claims in independent form to include all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Responsive to the indications of the Examiner Applicant has amended Claim 1 to include the limitations of Claim 4 and Claim 13. It follows that Claim 1, as amended, is in fact Claim 13 rewritten in independent form to include the limitations of its base claim (Claim 1) and the sole intervening claim (Claim 4). It follows that Claim 1 and the claims dependent thereon should now be in condition for allowance.

Applicant has also amended Claim 9 to include all of the limitations of its base claim (Claim 1) and its sole intervening claim (Claim 4). In view of this amendment, Claim 9 as amended together with the claims dependent thereon should now be in condition for allowance.

Since all of the claims presently rejected under 35 USC 102, namely claims 1, 5-8, 11, 12, 17, 18 and 20 either depend directly or indirectly from amended claims 1 and 9, applicant respectfully submits that the instant rejections have been overcome. The rejection of claim 4 has been rendered moot by its cancellation.

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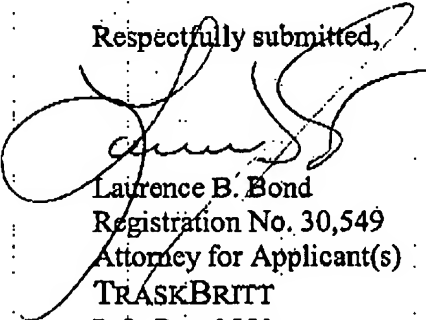
REJECTIONS UNDER 35 USC 103(A):

Claims 2, 3 and 19 stand rejected under 35 USC 103(a) over Matsubara. Each of these claims depend either directly or indirectly from amended Claim 1 or 9. It follows, as indicated above, that these claims should now be allowable in view of the allowability of their respective base claim and further in view of the further limitations contained therein.

CONCLUSION:

In view of the amendments indicated above and further in view of the arguments set forth, applicants respectfully request reconsideration of their application.

Respectfully submitted,



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Date: September 10, 2003

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Enc: Corrected Copy of Drawing Figure page 5/9.

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